

Amendments to the Claims

Listing of Claims:

Original Claims 1-16 (canceled).

Amended Claims 1-15 (canceled).

Claim 17 (new). A method of detecting an object or a person in the interior of a motor vehicle, which comprises:

providing an image recording unit for detecting an object or a person in the interior of the motor vehicle and an analytical unit for image data transmitted from the image recording unit;

operating at least one of the image recording unit and the analytical unit .

in a first operating mode when said analytical unit determines that an acceleration threshold value is not exceeded; and

in a second operating mode when said analytical unit determines that the acceleration threshold value is exceeded, the second operating mode taking over on a basis of positional data of a last measurement obtained in the first operating mode.

Claim 18 (new). The method according to claim 17, which comprises polling a value of a motor vehicle acceleration with the analytical unit with a cycle time of approximately 2 ms.

Claim 19 (new). The method according to claim 17, which comprises polling a value of a motor vehicle acceleration with the analytical unit with a cycle time of approximately 1 ms.

Claim 20 (new). The method according to claim 17, which comprises setting the

acceleration threshold value to approximately 2 m/s^2 .

Claim 21 (new). The method according to claim 17, which comprises estimating a next position of the object or the person in the second operating mode on a basis of the measured acceleration values by way of a comparison model.

Claim 22 (new). The method according to claim 17, which comprises, when the threshold value is no longer exceeded, interrupting a currently running second operating mode and restarting the first operating mode.

Claim 23 (new). The method according to claim 17, which comprises, upon exceeding the threshold value, interrupting a currently running first operating mode and starting the second operating mode.

Claim 24 (new). A device for detecting an object or a person in an interior of a motor vehicle, comprising:

an image recording unit disposed to detect an object or a person in the interior of the motor vehicle;

an analytical unit configured to receive data from said image recording unit;

and

the device being configured to be selectively operated:

in a first operating mode while a defined acceleration threshold value is determined not to be exceeded by said analytical unit; and

in a second operating mode while the acceleration threshold value is determined to be exceeded by the analytical unit.

Claim 25 (new). The device according to claim 24, wherein said analytical unit is configured to activate the second operating mode as soon as a value of a motor vehicle acceleration exceeds the acceleration threshold value.

Claim 26 (new). The device according to claim 24, wherein said analytical unit is configured to activate the first operating mode as soon as a value of a motor vehicle acceleration drops below the acceleration threshold value.

Claim 27 (new). The device according to claim 24, wherein said analytical unit is configured to reference values for a motor vehicle acceleration from an external airbag control unit.

Claim 28 (new). The device according to claim 24, which further comprises an acceleration sensor for determining an acceleration of the motor vehicle.

Claim 29 (new). The device according to claim 28, wherein said acceleration sensor forms an integral part of said analytical unit or of said image recording unit.

Claim 30 (new). The device according to claim 28, wherein said acceleration sensor is a sensor sensitive for relatively low accelerations.

Claim 31 (new). The device according to claim 24, wherein said image recording unit has a more restricted sampling range in the second operating mode than a sampling range in the first operating mode.

Claim 32 (new). The device according to claim 24, wherein said analytical unit has a shorter analysis cycle in the second operating mode than an analysis cycle in the first operating mode.

Claim 33 (new). The device according to claim 24, wherein said image recording unit is a camera.

Claim 34 (new). The device according to claim 24, wherein said image recording unit is a stereoscopic 3D camera.